

October 25, 2016

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia was held on October 25, 2016, in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at 7:30 PM with Mayor Danny Turner presiding. Council Members present included Danny Turner, Jennifer Bowles, Gene Teague, Mark Stroud and Sharon Brooks Hodge. Staff present included City Manager Leon Towarnicki, Assistant City Manager Wayne Knox, City Attorney Eric Monday, Clerk of Council Karen Roberts, Finance Director Linda Conover, and Police Chief Sean Dunn.

Mayor Turner called the meeting to order and advised Council would go into Closed Session beginning at 7:00 PM. In accordance with Section 2.1-344 (A) of the Code of Virginia (1950, and as amended) and upon a motion by Council Member Stroud, seconded by Council Member Hodge, with the following 5-0 recorded vote: Vice Mayor Bowles, aye; Council Member Hodge, aye; Council Member Teague, aye; Council Member Stroud, aye; and Mayor Turner, aye. Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters: (A) Appointments to boards and commissions as authorized by Subsection 1, and (B) Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, attorneys or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, or other specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, as authorized by Subsection 7. At the conclusion of Closed Session, each returning member of Council certified that (1) only public business matters exempt from open meeting requirements were discussed in said Closed Session; and (2) only those business matters identified in the motion convening the Closed Session were heard, discussed, or considered during the Session. A motion was made by Bowles, seconded by Hodge, with the following 5-0 recorded vote in favor to return to Open Session: Council Member Teague, aye; Council Member Hodge, aye; Mayor Turner, aye; Vice Mayor Bowles, aye; and Council Member Stroud, aye.

Council Member Hodge made a motion to reappoint Gavin Russell to the Southern Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority for a 4-year term expiring October 31, 2020; Vice Mayor Bowles seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Council Member Stroud made a motion to appoint Tyler Carter to the Southern Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority for a 4-year term expiring October 31, 2020; Vice Mayor Bowles seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Following the invocation by Council Member Stroud and Pledge to the American Flag, Mayor Turner welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Consider approval of minutes from the October 11, 2016 Council Meeting – Vice Mayor Bowles requested that it be added that she attended the vice presidential debate to network and advocate on behalf of the City. Council Member Teague made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; Vice Mayor Bowles seconded the motion with a 5-0 Council vote in favor.

Consider a review of the City's September finance report – Finance Director Linda Conover summarized the report for Council. Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to approve the

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financial report as presented, Council Member Stroud seconded the motion with all Members in favor.

City of Martinsville					
Consolidated Revenues and Expenditures					
FY17 - 9/30/16					
	Budget	Anticipated	Actual YTD	Remaining Balance	Difference Ant vs. Actual
General Fund					
Revenues	\$ 28,122,629	\$ 3,724,557	\$ 3,683,078	\$ 24,439,551	98.9%
Expenditures	30,262,850	7,575,813	7,502,162	22,760,688	99.0%
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(2,140,221)	(3,851,256)	(3,819,083)		
(Fund Bal contrib)					
Capital Funds					
Meals Tax					
Revenues	\$ 2,068,373	\$ 408,850	\$ 427,321	\$ 1,641,052	104.5%
Expenditures	2,468,373	942,741	942,741	1,525,632	100.0%
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(400,000)	(533,891)	(515,420)		
Capital Reserve					
Revenues	\$ 1,154,588	\$ 483,325	\$ 483,324	\$ 671,264	100.0%
Expenditures	1,191,087	687,732	687,732	503,355	100.0%
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(36,499)	(204,407)	(204,407)		
TOTAL CAPITAL FUNDS:	\$ (436,499)	\$ (738,298)	\$ (719,827)		
(Fund Bal contrib)					
Refuse Fund					
Revenues	\$ 2,205,000	\$ 421,440	\$ 423,296	\$ 1,781,704	100.4%
Expenditures	2,430,000	531,560	649,704	1,780,296	122.2%
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(225,000)	(110,120)	(226,407)		
MINI/Fiber Optic Fund					
Revenues	\$ 1,714,075	\$ 353,206	\$ 457,365	\$ 1,256,710	129.5%
Expenditures	1,463,664	418,668	489,581	974,083	116.9%
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	250,411	(65,462)	(32,217)		
Water Fund					
Revenues	\$ 4,536,768	\$ 897,295	\$ 897,684	\$ 3,639,084	100.0%
Expenditures	4,786,768	1,000,232	894,930	3,891,838	89.5%
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(250,000)	(102,937)	2,755		
Sewer Fund					
Revenues	\$ 4,916,521	\$ 1,057,628	\$ 1,101,903	\$ 3,814,618	104.2%
Expenditures	5,169,521	1,419,320	1,383,717	3,785,804	97.5%
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(253,000)	(362,292)	(281,814)		
Electric Fund					
Revenues	\$ 22,516,161	\$ 4,994,567	\$ 5,397,644	\$ 17,118,517	108.1%
Expenditures	22,366,161	6,451,671	6,453,362	16,506,799	100.1%
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(450,000)	(1,457,304)	(1,061,718)		
TOTAL UTILITY FUNDS:	\$ (1,175,000)	\$ (2,032,653)	\$ (1,567,185)		
(Fund Bal contrib)					

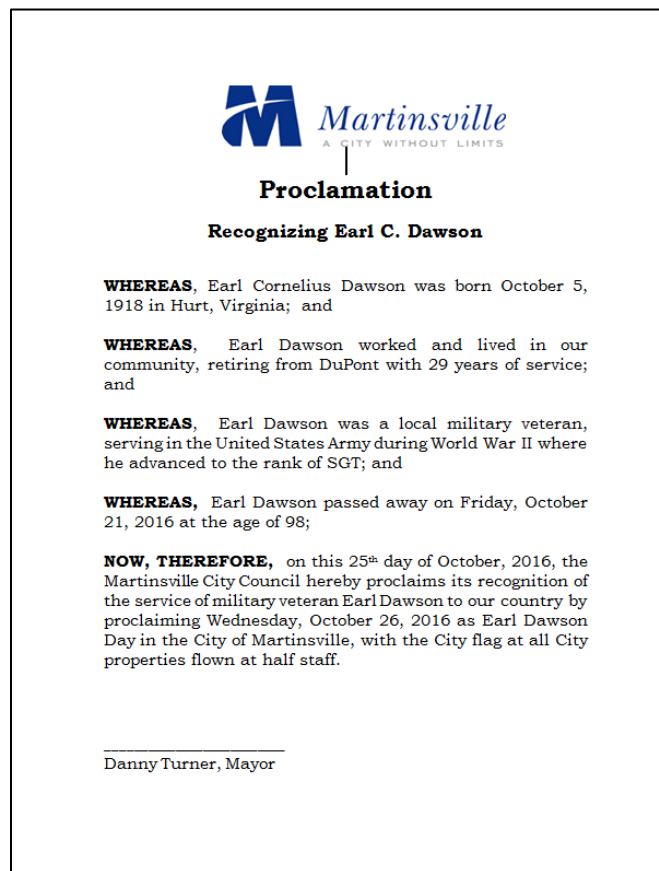
Consolidated Revenues and Expenditures					
FY17 - 9/30/16					
	Budget	Actual YTD	Remaining Balance	Difference Budget vs. Actual	
Cafeteria					
Revenues	\$ 1,447,543	\$ 101,098	\$ 1,346,445	7.0%	
Expenditures	1,517,543	358,232	1,159,311	23.6%	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(70,000)	(257,133)			
Schools					
Revenues	\$ 22,960,270	\$ 4,636,143	\$ 18,324,127	20.2%	
Expenditures	22,960,270	4,757,822	18,202,448	20.7%	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	-	(121,679)			
Federal Programs					
Revenues	\$ -	\$ 372,527	\$ (372,527)		
Expenditures	-	694,525	(694,525)		
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	-	(321,998)			
TOTAL SCHOOL FUNDS:	\$ (70,000)	\$ -	\$ (700,811)		
(Fund bal contrib)					
Special Revenue Funds					
COBG Fund					
Revenues	\$ 53,897	\$ 95,788	\$ (41,891)	177.7%	
Expenditures	53,897	16,780	37,117	31.1%	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	-	79,009			
TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FL	\$ -	\$ 79,009			
GRAND TOTALS:					
(Involving Schools & Special Revenues)					
Revenues:	\$ 67,234,115	\$ 12,340,868	\$ 54,893,247	18.4%	
Expenditures:	70,735,424	19,009,537	51,725,887	71.6%	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over	(3,501,309)	(6,668,669)	(3,132,640)		
Local Sales/Use Taxes	\$ 2,020,000	\$ 309,868	\$ 1,685,325	108.0%	
Meals Taxes	\$ 1,700,000	\$ 408,850	\$ 1,272,679	104.5%	
The Budgeted Revenue amounts do not include any contributions from Fund Balance.					

Consider approval of consent agenda - Council Member Teague made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Council Member Hodge seconded the motion with all Members in favor.

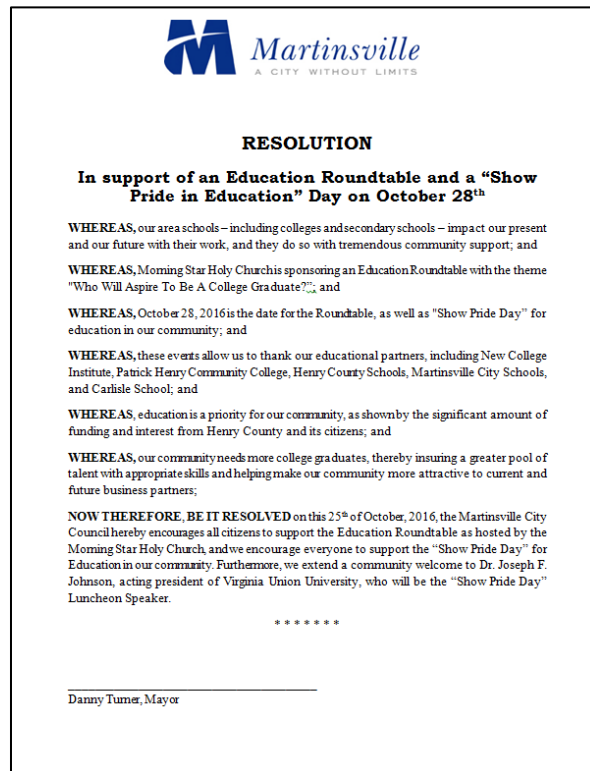
BUDGET ADDITIONS FOR 10/25/2016					
ORG	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT	
FY17					
General Fund:					
01100909	490104	Advance/Recovered Costs		300	
01321102	506130	Fire Dept. - Repair & Maint.-Burn Building	300		
		Reimbursements for training supplies			
01100909	490137	Recovered Costs - Public Safety		840	
01331108	501200	Sheriff/Corrections - Overtime	98		
01331108	502100	Sheriff/Corrections - Social Security	6		
01331108	502110	Sheriff/Corrections - Medicare	1		
01311085	501200	Police Department - Overtime	683		
01311085	502100	Police Department - Social Security	42		
01311085	502110	Police Department - Medicare	10		
		Off Duty Security reimbursements			
01100909	490801	Recovered Costs - Senior Services		1,510	
01100908	480420	Donations/Senior Citizens		175	
01714212	501300	Senior Citizens - Part-time Wages	933		
01714212	502100	Senior Citizens - Social Security	58		
01714212	502110	Senior Citizens - Medicare	14		
01714212	506049	Senior Citizens - Vehicle Fuels	505		
01714212	506016	Senior Services - Program Supplies	175		
		Donations & Transportation Grant - 1st Qtr			
Total General Fund:			2,825	2,825	
Sewer Fund:					
13103936	407700	Indebtedness - VRA Loan Proceeds		128,978	
13551326	508224	Wastewater Maintenance - SRI Project - Phys. Plant Exp	128,978		
		VRA Reimbursement #4			
Total Sewer Fund:			128,978	128,978	

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Present a proclamation recognizing and honoring deceased World War II veteran Earl C. Dawson – The sons of Sgt. Dawson were present. Mayor Turner read the proclamation. Local veteran W.C. Fowlkes shared some of Dawson’s history during and after his service and thanked the Dawson family and to all other veterans for their service. Thomas Spencer, Commander of the Martinsville-Henry County Veteran’s Honor Guard thanked council for inviting him to honor the family. Spencer stated that the local honor guard serves approximately 150 funerals for veterans each year. Sgt. Dawson’s sons thanked Council for the award and for recognizing their father. Mayor Turner asked what was happening locally for Veterans Day. Spencer said Bassett Historic Center would host a bench dedication in honor of Korean veterans; Veterans ??? will host a program to recognize outstanding veterans also at the former J. D. Bassett High School.



Consider approval of a Council resolution supporting an Education Roundtable and a “Show Pride in Education” Day on October 28 sponsored by Morning Star Holy Church – Council Member Hodge read the resolution. Mayor Turner presented Rev. Millner the resolution. Millner thanked Council for the resolution. Millner hopes that more citizens will participate in the Show Pride in Education Day.



Hear an overview of the October 24, 2016 Westside area Neighborhood Tour and Meeting – City Manager Towarnicki summarized the Westend community neighborhood tour including Maplewood Properties, Fayette Street, Pine Hall Road, Top Street, Katherine Street, Swanson Street and Baldwin Park, Jackson and Peters Streets. The neighborhood meeting was held at 7:30pm at Albert Harris Elementary School and well attended by individuals who expressed concerns about high electric bills, policies for absentee landlords and property maintenance, overgrowth behind a home, and other issues. The City is following up on several of issues brought up at the meeting. Council Member Hodges asked the City Manager to look into an alternate route for the bus that may accommodate other residents. Council Member Stroud said there was also concern on the street light illumination not being as wide spread as the previous lights. Towarnicki said he would be in contact with the contractor to see if there was any solution to the lighting concerns.

Hear information from Brooks Jones, Mobility Manager for Southern Area Agency on Aging regarding their Miles 4 Vets Program and a recent award from the Commonwealth Council on Aging – Mr. Jones detailed the award received for the Miles 4 Vets program stating that the program was started in 2014. Being a veteran himself, he saw the need for services by other veterans in the area. He thanked several organizations and said it has been a community effort that allows the program to expand. Vice Mayor Bowles thanked him for his service and asked if there was any new information. Jones explained that transportation Mondays and Wednesdays are handled by a third party and is paid for by grants but donations are vital. They are selling shirts to raise funds, they are hosting a “Sponsor a Veteran” program where you can communicate with veterans who benefit from the program

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and look forward to sharing stories with others. Contact SAAA or mile1.net website or the Mobility Management Facebook page. Jones said there are approximately 5,000 local veterans in 2013.

Hear an update from Martinsville City School Superintendent Dr. Zeb Talley regarding the 2016-2017 school year – Dr. Talley said it has been a privilege to work with the students and staff. School opened smoothly this year and great beginnings are important. He detailed vacancies at the City schools. He said administrative changes have made a positive impact. He is holding monthly principal meetings. Testing is not everything but it is important to building strong students. They have hosted a series of meetings and are looking at available space to expand so students can attend trades classes as well as obtaining 4-year education. They are holding monthly meetings with Henry County to see if there are areas that they can collaborate on. Board members are in the schools several days each week to monitor students and staff and they attend several school events. Board members acknowledge and return every call made by parents. Administrators are notified weekly of what is taking place in the schools. Several businesses have offered to purchase books for the school. There are several retired educators volunteering time to work with students. They are working with the Police Department to reduce truancy situations. The schools have a big need for reading coaches and tutors. In addition, they have a need for an assistant principal at Patrick Henry and the opportunity to reduce class size. His plan is to get every school accredited and hopes to provide every student the opportunity to grow and develop. Travis Clemons detailed the budget plan and deficit. Vice Mayor Bowles and Mayor Turner presented the Stairway to Success award to Dr. Talley. Towarnicki explained the online contest on school initiatives related to early childhood education. There were 22-23 localities that submitted information and received the award. Talley said he would love to implement two additional head start classes at Clearview. He welcomed Council to drop in and check on his dedication at any time. Teague said he would like an understanding of the SOLS and if there is any study on what is being done to increase scores. Talley explained they are having information meetings and data assessments, which will show student-reading levels.

Consider discussion of 2017 legislative agenda – City Attorney Monday explained the prefiling date for legislation is December 5, 2016. Vice Mayor Bowles asked Council if there was anything relating to transportation that needs to be changed as a result of Council endorsing the Regional Transportation Authority. Teague said Council simply supported the formation of the Transportation Authority in this region. Turner said the City's decision regarding the authority could be impacted by the County's decision to endorse the authority. Bowles requested including a statement opposing reimplementing local aid to the Commonwealth. Towarnicki made a comment regarding lottery proceeds going to localities. Teague noted that VML endorsed a JLARC review of the impact and suggested the city likewise

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endorse the VMLs position on the JLARC study. Hodge referred to #6 under education and several council members requested an update on the medical school before proceeding with that line item.



The City of Martinsville appreciates the efforts its legislators undertake at both the state and federal level on behalf of its citizens. Listed below are the City's priorities requested of its legislative delegation in 2016.

Virginia General Assembly

Transportation

1. In the short term, upgrade those portions of Route 220 overlaying I-73 to interstate standards. Any construction or upgrades to the I-73 corridor should begin on those sections passing through Henry County.
2. Continue to place priority on Route 58 improvements, particularly the section between Stuart and Hillsville, Virginia.

Education

1. City Council endorses the agenda proposed by the Martinsville City School System and also endorses the educational priorities adopted by Henry County, on behalf of its school system.
2. Oppose the imposition of unaided education mandates and in the event of revenue cuts by the Commonwealth opposes targeted cuts by the Commonwealth, instead preferring local decision making authority on where to make any such cuts.
3. Recognizing its potential to promote economic development within our community and region, continue support for the development and funding of the New College Institute; urge that any funding reductions to New College Institute, if considered, be minimized to the greatest extent possible; and support the affiliation of The New College Institute as a branch of a four-year public university.
4. Request the Commonwealth to fully fund the expenditures imposed upon local school systems by implementing the Standards of Quality.
5. Encourage the Commonwealth to continue or increase the current levels of financial support provided to Patrick Henry Community College.
6. Encourage the Commonwealth to provide financial support to the College of ~~Henricopolis~~ School of Medicine.
7. Request the Commonwealth to provide incentives for consolidation of school systems.

Economic Development

1. Maintain current levels of funding for economic development incentives, including but not limited to the Governor's Opportunity Fund.
2. Enhance the authority granted to localities to address and eliminate blighted properties, and the formation of interstate compacts to allow expedited recourse against out-of-state property owners.
3. Continue current funding levels of the Virginia Museum of Natural History.
4. Request enhanced state and federal financial assistance for localities which exceed the average state unemployment rate by 150% for a period of five consecutive years.
5. Support continued tourism awareness initiatives in the Martinsville-Henry County region.
6. Expand local authority to designate Enterprise Zones and establish incentives.

Governance

1. Request the appointment of a joint gubernatorial/legislative commission to examine the structure of local government in Virginia, the commission's mandate to include:
 - a. Examination of local government in the other 49 states for potential adaptation to Virginia.
 - b. Enable cities to expand their revenue base
 - c. Elimination of the "zero-sum" revenue base structure, which creates friction between cities and counties.
 - d. Elimination of redundant services and programs between contiguous cities and counties.

2. Require full funding for HB 599 funds, in fulfillment of the Commonwealth's commitment to cities in return for their acquiescence in the annexation moratorium.
3. Require that the Commonwealth fully fund its obligations to the Virginia Retirement System, and refrain from borrowing from VRS funds.
4. Request the elimination of "local aid to the Commonwealth" in the state budget; local aid artificially inflates state revenues by shifting responsibility for cuts in vital services onto localities.
5. Elimination of all unfunded mandates from the Commonwealth to localities.
6. Oppose any elimination or alteration of local revenue streams, and specifically oppose any amendment to the current manner in which the Business Occupation and Licensing Tax and the Machinery and Tools Tax are levied, unless a replacement revenue stream, not subject to biennial appropriation, is guaranteed by the Commonwealth.
7. Request at a minimum, level funding for operational requirements of the Henry-Martinsville Department of Social Services.
8. Request that the General Assembly leaves intact the fire programs fund and the rescue squad assistance funds and not use these funds as a way to balance the state budget.
9. Request that the Commonwealth fully fund its obligations to constitutional officers.
10. Oppose any attempt to curtail the doctrine of sovereign immunity for localities.
11. Oppose any attempt to permit collective bargaining for state and local government employees.
12. Oppose any amendment of the existing burden of proof or process in local tax appeals cases.
13. Request authority to refund erroneously paid taxes at an interest rate which ~~differs~~ from that imposed on delinquencies, and to refund taxes erroneously paid through the fault of the taxpayer at no interest.

United States Congress

1. Oppose any effort to impose additional taxation or regulation of electrical power generation by coal or natural gas.
2. Urge the Federal Highway Commission to adopt the CTB's designated route for I-73, or alternatively to preserve the current record of decision in the event the CTB's route is rejected.
3. In the short term, upgrade those portions of Route 220 overlaying I-73 to interstate standards.
4. Request \$3.72M in funds for the redevelopment of brownfields extending from the former American Furniture and Sara Lee sites, along Aaron Street, to Rives Road
5. Request \$6.25M in funds for the elimination and redevelopment of blighted areas in the city.
6. Request legislation to provide special federal incentives to businesses locating in regions which have experienced job losses in excess of 5% of the total workforce and/or declines in median incomes since the adoption of NAFTA, WTO or GATT. Target such areas for increased federal funding in education or workforce retraining.
7. Extend high speed broadband service throughout southern Virginia.
8. Request enhanced state and federal financial assistance for localities which exceed the average state unemployment rate by 150% for a period of five consecutive years.
9. Oppose the EPA's proposed expansion of the definition of "waters of the United States" in 40 CFR 230.3.

Staff Designations

City Council empowers the following staff members to speak on its behalf and in its best interests to the Virginia General Assembly and United States Congress, its members and committees:

City Attorney Eric Monday
City Manager Leon Towarnicki
Other department heads as appointed by the City Manager

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Before proceeding to comments by Council Members, Mayor Turner noted a housekeeping item regarding the next Council meeting. Turner explained that the next Council meeting is scheduled on Election Day. Council Member Teague made a motion to cancel the meeting; Vice Mayor Bowles seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Comments by members of City Council – Council Member Stroud said his family and friends are overwhelmed over the loss of loved one and he asks the citizens to keep them in their thoughts. Council Member Hodge questioned the delay in mail going through Greensboro instead of Roanoke and how it has affected the timeframe people are paying utility bills. She had a conversation with the Linda Conover, Finance and asked if it would be possible to use the postmark date instead of received date. Unfortunately, there are logistical issues that prevent that. She feels that it is worth considering since it could affect citizens who expect their payments to deliver in days instead of a week. Council Member Teague asked if someone from the post office could come and address the time frame and provide a better understanding of the process; maybe a grace period could be considered if necessary. Vice Mayor Bowles said that the Kiwanis Pancake Day was successful and the Rotary Club Lobster Fest was a success. She sent her condolences to family of Mark Dillard. Bowles also

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thanked Jennifer Doss for creating a City Snapchat filter. Bowles mentioned that Halloween activities will be held Uptown on Monday October 31 and reminded residents to vote on November 8 stating local government matters. Mayor Turner mentioned upcoming race weekend asking residents to please be friendly and patient with visitors. He said questions have been brought up regarding bulk trash pickup. City Manager Towarnicki explained the bulk trash policy regarding pickup for the tenant or for the landlord when a tenant is evicted from the property. If materials are bagged and property placed at the street, the city will pick it up. If the policy is not followed the trash dump will be reported to property maintenance.

Comments by City Manager – City Manager Towarnicki reminded Council members that November 3, 2016 is the VML Regional Supper at 6pm. On November 5, Liberty University College of Medicine will hold a clinic at the First United Methodist Church Activity Center beside Rania's beginning at 9am -3pm and will coordinate with numerous health organizations in the community. September 27 at council there was a presentation about the Martinsville Storm Ready certificate. Towarnicki recognized Council Member Stroud for being instrumental in the siren system and presented Stroud an award. Stroud said he is thankful that the city shared his concern and the sirens will be helpful in keeping citizens safe. Stroud commented that the emergency generator project at the middle school is not complete and he hopes that incoming Council Members will consider pushing that project.

City Attorney Monday explained that Halloween will be recognized on Monday October 31 and reminded residents that it is illegal for anyone over 12 years old to trick-or-treat and illegal for anyone to trick-or-treat past 9pm.

Business from the Floor (not televised) – no one approached the podium

There being no further business, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Bowles to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Hodge with all Council Members voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:03pm.

Karen Roberts
Clerk of Council

Danny Turner
Mayor